



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Judy Hamilton

Welcome to our new look BVAConnex for its 100th edition.



Kerrie White recently contacted me offering to help revamp our newsletter and you can see the difference having a professional makes. My computer skills are at best basic but they have got me through 99 issues to witness the transformation of BVAConnex from an amateur production to this beautiful new edition. It's so readable. All the features of the old BVAConnex advertising your events, exhibitions and workshops, as well as various stories on wider aspects of art that might interest you are still there.

Other exciting news is that after eight long months without a Secretary, BVAC has welcomed Anna-Margot Collins from the Queensland Enamellers Guild to this pivotal role. It's been tough operating without a secretary but I think those members of the committee who stepped up every month to help fill the void.

In our Build a Better BVAC Project, we are reviewing all aspects of how BVAC operates—from looking at aspects of membership, how the committee operates, and what will be our focus for the future.

While we are doing this, it is wonderful to find that BVAC has made a real difference to some groups.

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MEETING MINUTES

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12th August 2021*



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A RAKU COLLABORATION

Twice the Fun

CROSSDALE 5

Somerset Regional Gallery

WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

AUSTRALIAN PASTEL EXPO 2022

Dates and Info

Sandra, from Papermakers, informed us at our last meeting that since their group now has “a fixed address” at the BVAC Hub, even though it is not in the desired neighbourhood (the group is northside based), the group has more than doubled in size.

Another group that seems to be doing very well since they took up residence at the Hub is the Bookbinders Guild. One room became two rooms and now they have established a bindery at the Hub. Those two groups were obviously held back by not having a permanent base and they are making the most of the BVAC space. Sometimes I think we are dealing with Triffids that just keep multiplying. But it is good.

Groups who already have a home space probably don't notice the difference that BVAC has made quite as much. These groups are more likely to continue as normal but use BVAC organised events for their members as a bonus—which they are.

We have other member groups who have reached a bit of a crisis point in their existence. BVAC will do all it can to support these groups as they negotiate their way to their new normal and we wish them every success as they progress on their journeys.

BVAC is here to help groups, but BVAC needs your group to help us if we are to improve art conditions in Brisbane.

Enjoy our new look BVACConnex.

Let us know what you think.

Judy



The Hub
at Tarragindi

Tricia Smout is mathemARTical...

by Tricia Smout

I really enjoyed reading Judy’s article about maths in art in the previous edition of BVAConnex. Judy started by saying the knitting and crochet have inspired mathematicians, but for me it’s the reverse, because it’s the maths that has inspired many of my artworks!

In a previous life I taught high school science and maths, and I have always been fascinated by patterns and symmetry, so I guess it was a natural progression.

Over many years I have been making artworks based on mathematical concepts, and one day I hope to display them all together in an exhibition titled “mathemARTical”.

When I told Judy how her article has re-inspired me to continue working on this theme, she asked me to show some of my creations in BVAConnex. I hope you enjoy them.

Tricia

www.triciasnout.com.au

SYMMETRY

“Alphabet”

In both this loose-page book and the hanging, each separate circular design is based on one letter of the alphabet, created by mirroring and repetition.



SOUND PATTERNS

“Cymatics”

The study of the visible effects of sound and vibration is called cymatics. Sand vibrating at different frequencies forms intricate geometric patterns, and this mirrors symmetries found throughout nature (snowflakes, cloud formations, etc). These quilts are embroidered with some of the simpler of these amazing patterns.



HYPERBOLIC PLANES

“Coral Kaleidoscope”

This colourful sculpture uses a wide range of materials and a multiplicity of techniques to represent the enormous variety of micro-habitats, and the amazing diversity of plant and animal species which inhabit coral reefs. The fluted undulations of many corals are biological manifestations of hyperbolic geometry, here replicated in crochet.



mathemARTical...

MOBIUS BAND

"Procrastination à la Mobius"

A never-ending Mobius strip seemed the appropriate structure on which to write these words which describe the feelings of frustration and futility we experience when we think our lives are going round in circles.

My life has spiralled into a Mobius strip. It has become impossible to achieve anything. Everything needs something else to be done first. In the end everything starts looping back on itself.



NUMERICALS

"Number Patterns"

One side of each inside page shows each digit (the numerals 1-9), repeated as a multiple of itself to create a circular pattern. On the other side, each number has been written (in words) as a plane shape with the requisite number of sides.



FREQUENCIES

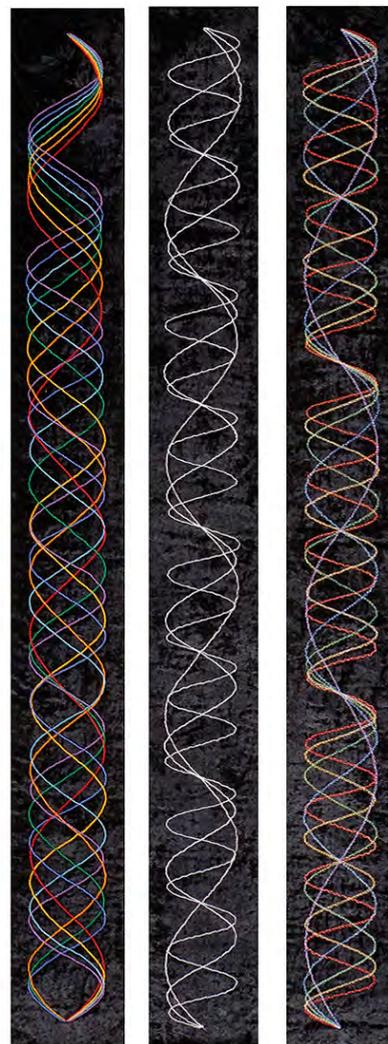
"Wavelengths"

These quilts depict the frequency sine curves for light, sound and brain waves, each embroidered in a different stitch.

LIGHT depicts the visible spectrum (using a middle-value frequency for each colour). Red (450 THz), Orange (500), Yellow (550), Green (600), Cyan (650), Blue (700), Violet (750).

SOUND shows the frequency of 'middle C' (261.626 Hz) and also low 'C' and high 'C' (130.813 and 523.251) – half and twice the frequency of 'middle C'.

THOUGHT portrays electrical activity in the brain. Although not true sine curves, they were standardised to create aesthetic balance. Delta waves (2 Hz) – deep sleep, Theta waves (4) – dream sleep; Alpha waves (8) – relaxation; Beta waves (16) – normal wakefulness; Gamma waves (32) – high stimulation



mathemARTical... continued

PLANE SHAPES

"Shapes"

Each page of this book features a different plane shape. The cover book diagrams of the shapes overlaid by the word 'SHAPES', designed as an ambigram (so it can be read from both directions).



NUMERICAL SYSTEMS

"Number Nuances"

In many parts of the world people have needed a way to record numbers, and many different systems have been invented independently throughout human history.

All the yellow fabrics are different, each inscribed with a specific numbering system, and this reflects the variations (and sometimes only very subtle differences) between some of the numbering systems.

Quotes about the importance of numbers are lettered in the borders, and each corner contains one mathematical operator (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division) because these are essential tools in helping us utilise numbers to create order in our world.



NUMBERS

"My Days are Numbered"

This nostalgic text, written by my sister Alison Horsley, refers to the numbers which have "shaped" her childhood.

To reinforce this concept the page edges have been shaped into these numbers, and they are also printed under the text. The Tempus Sans type font was selected to mimic the wobbly shapes of a young child's writing.



TESSELLATIONS

"Quintessential Queensland"

The triangular pages of this book can be rearranged in different patterns and combinations to enable viewers to create their own multi-faceted kaleidoscopes of Quintessential Queensland.



mathemARTical... continued

NUMBER MEANINGS

“Mandala”

For Buddhists, both the making of, and the contemplation of, a mandala are important in the path towards spiritual enlightenment. The colours and the symmetrical divisions in a mandala are significant. The circle shape is important because it signifies wholeness, completion and unity. The numbers 4 and 8 represent the Four Noble Truths of Buddhist philosophy and the Eightfold Path towards Enlightenment.

This artwork is my personal mandala, made in my favourite colours. For a Buddhist, contemplation of a mandala awakens his higher senses so that he might eventually perceive the inner mystical vision. Similarly having this artwork on my wall provides me with creative inspiration and focus..



And Speaking of Knitting...

After an article on knitting and crochet in last month’s BVAConnex, it was nice to see the often maligned handicraft of knitting making its way to the Olympics—not as an event (although that could be interesting), but as a relaxing pastime for a competitor waiting in the stands to cheer his compatriots on.

While we watched the Olympics in our lounge rooms, the British diving team star, Tom Daley knitted by the poolside. Daley was not just making up numbers on the Great Britain team at the Olympics either: he won gold in the synchronised 10 metre synchronised platform diving and then bronze in the individual men’s platform dive.

Daley knitted a small pouch to hold his gold medal but his major achievement was the special Team GB cardigan he created while sitting poolside and watching his fellow diving competitors over the past week.

The cardigan is not a simple creation using basic stocking stitch, but features a Team GB logo, British flag, Olympic rings, and Tokyo in Japanese on the front. Daley said he wanted to make something that would remind him of the Olympics to look back on in the future. When medals aren’t enough.



Notes from BVAC Meeting August XX, 2021

Attendees: Sandra Evans (APAT), Peter Rayson (WC), Liz Pearson (ATASDA), Joanne Faber (PAQ), Wendy Goode (SA), Anna Margot Collins (QEG), Marilyn George (QBG), Shirley McCormick LCAQ.

Apologies: Pauline Stevens.

Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

WSC are quite excited about building the drain trap for the intended new outdoor sink as a group project.

President's Report:

A bit of a wobbly month with the lockdown. Those who had entered the EKKA Arts & Crafts competitions were affected by the extended Covid lockdown, but the EKKA is putting on a special art exhibition open to the public on Saturday night. A great initiative. Papermakers also had to cancel their exhibition in August.

Welcome to Anna-Margot as Secretary for BVAC. She will also take on the role of Event Co-ordinator.

I met with Kerrie White who will take over the design of BVACConnex this month. Kerrie has recently taken out membership with CAQ. Kerrie and I will work together on the newsletter. The new BVACConnex has all the usual features but is a beautiful, professional production in keeping with our aspirations with our Build a Better BVAC project.

Treasurer's Report:

For the first time ever, we have no-one overdue on invoices. With the cancellation of the July Pop-Up, we are \$2000 down on income but still in a healthy position.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Pop-Up Shop

- Pop-Up Shop for November is almost full with Papermakers and ATASDA joining the original line-up. Event should go ahead on November 19, 20, 21.

Artisan Exhibition

- Anna-Margot has delved into the possibility of BVAC participating in this event taking place in the Woolworths' Pavilion at the RNA Showgrounds April 1, 2, 3 in 2022. We are hoping to take a 6m x 3m stand. Most of the space will be used to exhibit/sell work from all groups, but space will be limited. BVAC will cover the cost of the stand but will charge commission on all sales. It was decided to go ahead with this.

Christmas Market

- Lyn Pearson has been following up the idea of a Christmas Market for BVAC groups in the Sherwood area. She has approached St Matthew's Church (cnr Oxley/Sherwood Rd) regarding a one day market to be held on December 4. Cost will be \$20 a table with individual sales and no commission payable. This will not be a group event but individuals taking part must be members of one of our member groups. BVAC insurance applies.

NDIS

- We now have NDIS certification.

NOTES FROM BVAC MEETING cont'd

Building a Better BVAC Project

- Sandra P and Sandra E are in the process of redoing hall hire agreement paperwork for next year's hirers.

BVAConnex

- Kerrie White (CAQ) will be assisting Judy with the newsletter from this month.

BUILDING & MAINTENANCE

- Council approval has been given for the installation of a second air conditioner in the upstairs hall area as well as another in the Bindery. Also approved is extra lighting for the downstairs area. Bookbinders are paying for their system as per the agreement with BVAC.
- A new kettle is now downstairs.
- Sink rejuvenation downstairs is underway (Council permits needed). Please leave the sink downstairs clean when you leave. There are legal reasons why we cannot set up a kitchen with a sink downstairs.

REMINDERS

- Consider your desired dates for next year

Meeting Closed: 11.15

Next Meeting: The Hub, September 9, 9.30 am

ELEMENTAL



CERAMIC ARTS QUEENSLAND
ANNUAL MEMBERS' EXHIBITION



Elemental:
Ceramic Arts Queensland
Annual Members' Exhibition

12-24 August 2021
9.30 – 4 pm daily
Brisbane Institute of Art
41 Grafton Street, Windsor

Art West Art Prize 2021

Congratulations to Art West Community Gallery as they stage their most ambitious competition yet—the Art West Art Prize 2021. Prizes were awarded in the categories of Oil; Acrylic; Watercolour/Pastel/Drawing; Print Media; Mixed Media; and 3D Modelled or Carved.

Other prizes included the Colin Williams Prize, and the Hanger's Choice Prize, culminating in the prestigious prize for Best in Show. This prize was awarded **Carol Page** for her Mixed Media work, *The Burnett Region*.



The Burnett Region, Carol Page

The Colin Williams Prize was won by **Sandra Ladley** for her riotously colourful oil, *Wild Poppies*.



Wild Poppies, Sandra Ladley

Colin Williams founded the Art West Community Gallery in 2015, and now acts as Patron for the group. His vision of a gallery for the western suburbs community has been most successful as the gallery has become a destination for individuals and local businesses

seeking quality art works for the walls.

Making sure that the regular exhibitions and the Art Prize are mounted professionally is a dedicated team of Hangers. These workers take time at the end of each hanging session to vote for the work they consider to be the best. For the Hanger's Art Prize, they chose **Sue Burton's**, *Bushland Dreaming*.



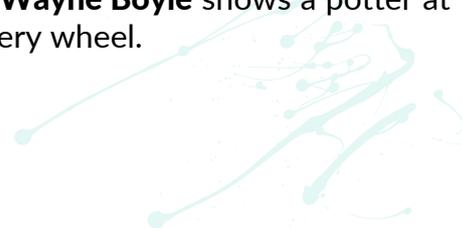
Bushland Dreaming, Sue Burton

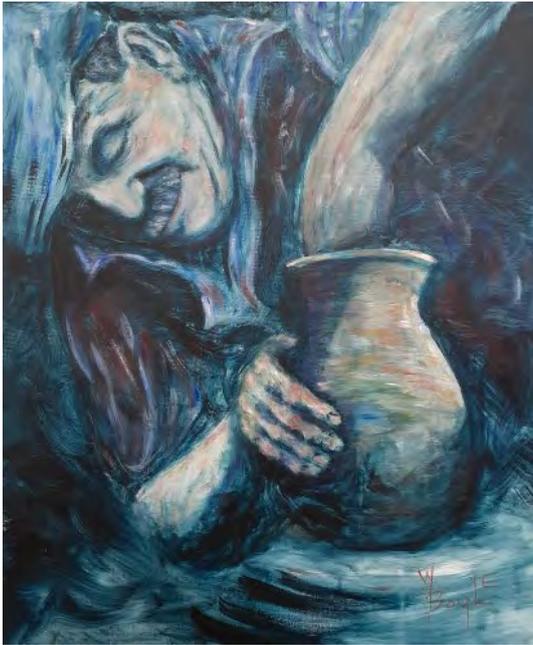
First Prize in the Oils Category was awarded to **David Ladley** for *Bird Bath*. An egret enjoys the pristine surroundings as it looks for lunch in the calm waters.



Bird Bath, David Ladley

The winner of the Acrylic category, *May Your Hands be Full of Clay and Your Heart Full of Imagination* by **Wayne Boyle** shows a potter at work on a pottery wheel.





*May Your Hands be Full of Clay and
Your Heart Full of Imagination,*
Wayne Boyle

Finally, congratulations to Toni Mclsaac for taking out the 3D (Modelled or Carved) Prize. Toni's sculptures in wood are well known in the gallery. When she found this lump of wood, she was reminded of an old telephone handset.



Toni Mclsaac

Works that are presented behind glass don't photograph well and so are not featured in this article.

These sections include Print Media; Watercolour/Pastel/Drawing; and some Mixed Media.

The winner of the Print Media Prize was **Julie Stirling** with her work *Disguise*.

The Watercolour/Pastel/Drawing Prize was won by **Jenny Hooper** with *Sentry Duty*, a beautiful study of those birds we love to hate—the noisy miner.

Stacey Morrison's *My Dreamings/My Happenings* took out the Mixed Media Prize.

Congratulations to Art West Community Gallery for rising to the occasion. Well done.

Art West Art Prize
July 13th - Sept 4th
Art West Community Gallery
Mt Ommaney Shopping Centre
171 Dandenong Rd
Mt Ommaney Qld 4074
Mon - Sat 10 -4; Sun 10 -2





Life Drawing
Wednesdays 6-9pm
Untutored Workshops
From 21 July 2021

Half Dozen Group of Artists
37 Quarry Rd
Sherwood

As our numbers are limited due
to Covid restrictions register
ahead at:

nightdrawingHDG@gmail.com

Members \$15

Non-Members \$20

Students (with student card) \$10

A Raku Collaboration

Raku firings are always fun for clayworking groups and when you join two groups together, you get twice the fun. Very appropriate really when the meaning of the word “**raku**” is *enjoyment*.

This month, Western Suburbs Clayworkers travelled up to Redcliffe to join the Redcliffe Pottery Group for a collaborative Raku firing. Groups tend to develop a preferred set of glazes to use, and their own ways to finish the firing using water, newspaper, or sawdust. You never know when you will learn something new.

Raku dates back to the 16th century in Japan, but the raku as we do it today comes from the work of the American potter, Paul Soldner, in the 1960s. Soldner taught his students to embrace their mistakes, believing that mistake, rather than necessity, was the mother of invention. The unpredictability of the outcome is something that attracts many potters to this method.

Raku takes red hot pots from a small kiln. While still glowing, their glaze runny, the pots are placed into some combustible material that will ignite easily on contact, such as sawdust, pine needles, or newspaper.

Once alight, the container is sealed so as to starve the flame of oxygen. In an effort to survive, the fire draws chemical oxygen from both the pots and the glaze, which creates a wonderful variety of glaze colours.

For potters, it’s an incredibly exciting technique, as there’s always the anticipation of how each piece may turn out with so many variables—the temperature of the pot as it comes out of the kiln, how well the combustible material burns, and the amount of oxygen that is available within the combustion chamber.

A variation on the technique is to plunge the red hot pot directly into cold water. The results from this treatment are vastly different from those placed into a combustion chamber. As an example, a copper rich glaze plunged into water will turn out green, while the same glaze placed into a combustion chamber will turn red.

Unusual combinations of glazes are all part of the raku experience and Redcliffe provided a broad selection of glazes for the use of all. For some, it is the lure of shiny, lustrous metallic look glazes bringing the visible colours of the rainbow to their work, while for others it is the soft touchability of the fired glaze that is appealing. Another interpretation of the word raku is **comfort**.



Crossdale 5 at Somerset Regional Gallery

Out at Toogoolawah, the Somerset Regional Gallery is housed in the renovated Condensery.

What on earth was a Condensery? The building is left over from a time when many small rural towns actually had their own industries employing the local people and produce. As part of a dairy region, the Condensery in Toogoolawah was actually where condensed milk was manufactured and shipped out to the rest of Australia. The factory closed as a result of the Great Depression of the 1930s. The derelict building was purchased by the Somerset Regional Council in 2013 for conversion into a contemporary art gallery.



The current exhibition features the work of the **Crossdale 5**, which brings together the work of five regional artists who live and work in the rural district of Crossdale (population 75). I particularly wanted to see the sculpture of the very talented Jan Williams, and the ceramics of Jane Harthoorn. Although the gallery was not well lit (the gallery lighting is being replaced), the sculptures still had impact.

In recent years, Jan has been working on a series of works inspired initially by the prehistoric Venus figurines of 30,000 years ago but showing evidence of Jan's love of

the 20th century work of Aristede Malliol.



You may not know it but you have all probably seen Jan's work. As a young artist, he worked on the whale sculptures that float in the Whale Mall outside the Queensland Museum.

I like to think of Jan's work as that of the impossibly possible. In Jan's personal sculpture journey, his work has always exhibited a quality of the impossible – especially balance. Impossible balance and impossible lightness in what is essentially a substantial figure. The sculptures are not large, but they exude a massive quality and a quirky sense of balance.

To create these massive looking figures, Jan works in polyester fibreglass, a material he became familiar with during his time working as an artist at the Queensland Museum. The work, although it looks heavy is therefore not. What adds to the solidity of these forms is the colour of the work. Jan has experimented with inclusions for colour. He has used coffee grounds to give a rich deep brown, but recent work is done with iron inclusions, which produces the beautiful rusty patina of Corten steel after immersion in salt water.





The exhibition also shows ceramic works by Jane Hartshoorn. Jane's work is inspired by the sea and features intricate carving in the bone dry state that Jane refers to as "whittling". Sea Energy is a whittled piece with the turbine like lower section symbolising the clean energy and power of the sea. Jane also showed some delicate black and white carved pieces that again evoked land and sea. The pieces were fired in a wood fired kiln to stoneware temperatures.



The exhibition is on display at The Condensery
Somerset Regional Gallery
29 Factory Rd, Toogoolawah QLD 4313
24 July to 19 September 2021.

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SAVE THE DATE
31ST AUG – 4TH SEP
2022



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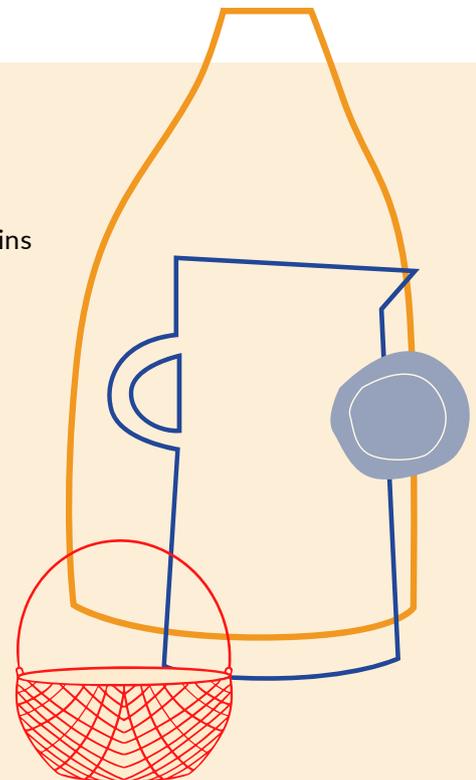
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